

ACTIVIST PRIEST SUES EXAMINER

"The Examiner took little bits of truths and put them together into a big lie. It has done irrevocable harm to myself and my church," an incensed pastor told the Tribe this week.

Reverend Raymond Broshears of St. Timothy's Orthodox Episcopal Church of God had just finished reading the Tuesday edition of the Hearst sheet which included an article about him.

"It's an obvious case of libel and slander," he said. He plans to sue the Examiner. The San Francisco Police Department will be named as co-defendant in the suit.

Broshears will ask \$2,400,000 in damages.

Last Saturday the minister raised a furor at the San Francisco Presidio by going there in person to serve the brass a restraining order forbidding them to beat Pvt. Paul McArdle, an AWOL soldier held in the brig. Monday the story was featured on the front page of the Chronicle.

Tuesday's Examiner had a different approach to the case. Instead of focusing on the charges

of brutality at the Presidio, it stressed Broshears' private past life. The Examiner stated the minister was "registered as a



sex offender with San Francisco police," and had served 6 months in jail in Ohio for contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

The unsigned Examiner article said nobody in the Episcopal Church hierarchy knew who Rev. Broshears was.

"They're trying to make me

appear like some sexual psychopath," the angered minister said. "By putting filth in my background they are trying to destroy our case against military brutality. This is how they hope to win."

Broshears said that, by law, the names of registered "sex offenders" can only be released to law enforcement agencies, not the press. "Whoever gave the information to the Examiner is guilty of a felony," he charged. "The Examiner doesn't qualify as a law enforcement agency, though it obviously wants to be one."

The reverend is presently challenging the constitutionality of the California law which requires anyone "ever arrested or convicted of a sex crime," to register as a "sex offender" with the police department.

According to Broshears, he is required to register because of a frame-up conviction in 1964 in Belleville, Illinois. He was arrested there for leading a civil rights march through the city.

On the question of his religious affiliation, he said, "Of course

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the established Episcopal Church doesn't know me. I'm not part of the Judas clergy." He explained the Orthodox Episcopal Church of God is a separate group, with 37,000 members in the 11 Western states.

Broshears became involved in the McArdle case at the Presidio September 12, when the AWOL, British-born soldier contacted him and asked for help. Broshears obtained documented evidence of a beating MP's had given McArdle and showed it to Federal Judge Gerald Levin. The judge issued a restraining order, telling the Army, including top officials of the Presidio such as General Stanely Larsen, commander of the 6th Army, to refrain from "assaulting, harrassing, beating or torturing" McArdle.

McArdle has suffered permanent physical damage from a beating administered by 3 MP's

in the woods outside the Presidio holding facility, Broshears said.

The Sixth Army has already exonerated the MP's.

The Army will have to answer the brutality charges in court today (Friday). William Flenniken and Joe Manzella, attorneys for the young GI, feel they have a very strong case against the Army. They and Rev. Broshears are seeking to collect \$25,000 in damages from the military for Pvt. McArdle.

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